

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 44 are pending in the application. Claims 1 to 27, 30, 36, and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gundlach et al. (U.S. Patent 6,054,505) in view of Vieira et al. (U.S. Patent 5,096,781). Claims 1 to 26, 29, 35, 38, and 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gundlach et al. in view of WO 97/20000. Claims 1 to 7, 9 to 17, 19 to 26, 28, 34, 37, and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gundlach et al. in view of Vieira et al. Claims 31 to 33 and 40 to 42 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, and have been indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

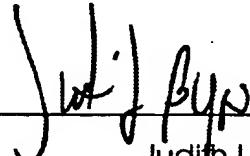
Applicants have cancelled claims 6 to 8, 16 to 18, 27 to 30, 34 to 39, 43, and 44, thereby rendering moot the rejections of these claims. Applicants intend to pursue these claims or claims of similar scope in a divisional application.

Applicants have incorporated into independent claims 1, 11, 21, and 24 the formulae recited in claims 31, 32, and 33 and believe that these amendments place all of the pending claims in condition for allowance.

Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments and distinctions place the claims in condition for allowance, and accordingly respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all grounds for rejection.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, she is hereby authorized to call Applicant(s) attorney, Judith L. Byorick, at Telephone Number (585) 423-4564, Rochester, New York.

Respectfully submitted,



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